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URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON.

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health.
for the year
1952.

Dr: D.W.A. Bull, M.A., M.D., (Cantab)

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1952 (Circular No: 2/53 England)

Summary of Vital Statistics

Area (acres)	4,699
Population 1951 Census	13,421
Estimated population 1952 (Registrar General's figures)	13,460
Rateable Value	£71,664
Product of a Penny Rate	£290

Birth Rate 11.9 per 1,000 England & Wales 15.3 per 1,000

Death Rate 14.5 per 1,000 England & Wales 11.3 per 1,000

Infant Mortality 12.5 per 1,000 births (last year 23.4 per 1,000)

Neo Natal 6.2 per 1,000 births (last year 23.4 per 1,000)

LIVE BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female	Rate
Legitimate	160	83	77	11.9 per 1,000
Illegitimate	6	1	5	
	166	84	82	

STILL BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	2	1	1

DEATHS	Total	Male	Female
from Pregnancy, Childbirth, and abortion	N	I	L
Infant Mortality			
Legitimate	1	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	25
" " Measles) " " Whooping Cough)	Nil
" " Tuberculosis	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	2 males (legitimate)
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	1 male do

Tuberculosis Clinic

This is open one day a week at Wolverton where the County Tuberculosis Officer attends.

Screenings and X-Ray photographs of the chest can be done here.

Dental Treatment Mental Health Care of Expectant Mothers and young children Blind Persons	County Council

Disinfection

The disinfection of clothing and bedding is carried out. Concurrent and terminal disinfection is also carried out by means of gaseous and liquid disinfectants in houses where infectious disease is notified.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It has not been necessary to take any action under Section 47 of this Act.

Under Section 50 of this Act, cases were dealt with where no relatives could be found.

Prevention of damage by Pests Act, 1949 - Rodent Control.

The service instituted by the Council for the treatment of infestations by rats and mice, and of surveys of properties, has continued very successfully. The assistance of the Health Department in the control of rodents is regularly asked for and this is now considered as essential as any of the other public services. The Council's various undertakings themselves need regular attention.

TABLE

	L.A.	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cult-ural.	All other (inc. Bus. & Indstrl)	Total
Total number of properties in L.A. District	3	4353	-	610	4966
Number of properties insptd. by L.A. during 195 as a result of (A) notification		79	-		79
or (B) otherwise	3	20	-	8	31
Number of properties found to be infested by rats	3	99		8	110
Number of properties found to be seriously infested by mice	-	-	-	-	-
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	3	99		8	110
Number of notices served under Section 4:- (1) Treatment (2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	NIL	-	-
Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of Notice under S.4.	-	-	NIL	-	-
Number of "block" control schemes carried out.	-	-	NIL	-	-

Water Supply.

1. There are no new sources of water supply. The Council purchases a bulk supply from the London Midland Region of British Railways and distributes it to the Wolverton and New Bradwell area. The Stony Stratford area is supplied from the Council's Calverton Road source which is augumented by a supply from the Bucks. Water Board. The Lower and Middle Wealds of Calverton are supplied from the Council's Calverton Road source, and the hamlet of Upper Weald, Calverton, receives water from the Bucks. Smallholdings supply main.

(i) The water supplies to the Urban District have been satisfactory in quality. The quantity has been sufficient except at Upper Weald where a shortage was overcome by carting water.

(ii) Samples of water are submitted for examination at monthly intervals, and the results have been very satisfactory, as shown on this and pages 5 and 6. The water supplied from the Blue Bridge pumping station is filtered, chlorinated and ammoniated; and that from the Council's Calverton Road source is chlorinated. It is anticipated that the Bucks. Water Board will commence delivery of water to New Bradwell and Wolverton in September, 1953. This will then give an improved supply to the Upper Weald area.

(iii) Copy of chemical analysis is shown on Page 7.

(iv) No action required.

(v) The number dwelling houses supplied direct into the house, is 4,500, and the number supplied by standpipe is 67.

2. The water supply has been sufficient in quantity with the exception referred to earlier.

(i) Bacteriological Examinations -

Lab ref: No: 334.

Nature of Samples of Water from Council Depot, Church Street, Wolverton

Date and hour of collection	5.8.52	10.30 a.m.
Date and hour of arrival	5.8.52	
Date and hour of examination	5.8.52	

Probable number of Coliform Bacilli, Mac Conkey, 2 days, 37°C = 0/100 c.c.

Probable number of Faecal coli, MacConkey, 2 days, 44°C = 0/100 c.c.

Lab ref: No: 336.

Nature of Sample of Water from Middle Weald, Stony Stratford.

Date and hour of collection	5.8.52
Date and hour of arrival	5.8.52
Date and hour of examination	5.8.52

Probable number of Coliform Bacilli, MacConkey, 2 days 37°C = 0/100 c.c.

Probable number of Faecal coli, MacConkey, 2 days 44°C = 0/100 c.c.

Very Satisfactory.

Samples of Water collected during the year - 1952.

Name of Water Supply	Water Undertaker	Bacteriological Samples Date	Bacteriological Samples Result	Chemical Samples Date	Chemical Samples Result	Remarks Lab Ref: No:
Calverton Road P.S.	Wolverton U.D.C.	12. 2.52.	V.S.	-	-	Lab Ref: No: 741
"	"	10. 4.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 127
"	"	29. 4.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 477
"	"	13. 5.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 825
"	"	10. 6.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 585
"	"	8. 7.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 437
"	"	5. 8.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 333
"	"	------	---	16.9.52	See Page No: 4.	
"	"	22. 9.52.	V.S.	-	-	Lab Ref: No: 621
"	"	20.10.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 215
"	"	4.11.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 583
"	"	22.12.52	V.S.	-	-	do. 680
Blue Bridge P.S.	Wolverton U.D.C.	12. 2.52.	V.S.	-	-	Lab Ref: No: 742
"	"	10. 4.52	V.S.	-	-	do. 128
"	"	29. 4.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 478
"	"	13. 5.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 826
"	"	10. 6.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 586
"	"	8. 7.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 435
"	"	5. 8.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 334
"	"	22. 9.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 620
"	"	20.10.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 217
"	"	4.11.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 578
"	"	22.12.52.	V.S.	-	-	do. 679

V.S. = Very Satisfactory.

Samples collected from swimming pools and bathing places - 1952.

Name of swimming pool or bathing place	Controlled by	Bacteriological Samples		Remarks
		Date	Result	
Fegans Homes	Governors of Fegans Homes	13.5.52.	Very Satisfactory	Lab: Ref: No: 828
do	do	10.6.52.	do	do 583
do	do	16.6.52.	do	do 759
do	do	30.6.52.	do	do 206
do	do	8.7.52.	do	do 434
do	do	14.7.52.	do	do 594
do	do	21.7.52.	do	do 817
do	do	28.7.52.	do	do 67
do	do	5.8.52.	do	do 337

Total Samples collected - 9.

Chemical Analysis -

Sample of water from U.D.C. supply, Calverton Road Pumping Station.

Date 16.9.52.

	Parts per 100,000	
	TREATED	UNTREATED
Total Solid Residue	61.6	72.0
Chloride as Cl	2.7	3.0
as NaCl	4.45	4.95
Free & Saline Ammonia	nil	nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0032	0.0048
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 permagent in 3 hours at 98°F	nil	nil
Hardness	39.2	46.0
Permanent	17.8	19.8
Temporary	21.4	26.2
Reaction (pH)	7.2	6.9
Nitrates as Nitrogen	0.4	0.7
Nitrites as Nitrogen	Absent	Absent
Lead, Copper and Zinc	Absent	Absent

Dr: Voeckler,

County Analyst.

Food Premises:

The number of food premises in this district is 126 and are situate as follows:-

	New Bradwell.	Stony Stratford.	Wolverton.
Butcher	6	7	7
Baker	-	5	3
Confectionery	1	4	9
Grocer	2	7	7
Fruit	2	4	5
General Store	12	8	14
Cafes	-	6	2
Fish	3	1	3
Hotels which have catering facilities)	1	2	4
Covered Market	-	-	1
	27	44	55

Handling, wrapping and delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in the open air.

The model bye-laws for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practice in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food, and sale of food in the open air, are in force in this district.

All restaurant kitchens, have been inspected and were found quite satisfactory.

At the end of the year there were 10 bake-houses in regular use, none of which come under the category of "underground Bake-houses".

The method of firing at these bake-houses is as follows:-

Solid fuel	9
Gas and solid fuel	1
Gas	-
Electricity	-
	10

The bake-houses are generally maintained in a very satisfactory condition, and it was only necessary to draw attention to minor defects.

Shops Act, 1934 - Section 10 -

Frequent visits were made to shops to ensure that the health and comfort of shop workers is provided for and were generally found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Inspection and Supervision of Food - Milk Sampling -

Regular checks on the sale of milk were taken throughout the year; 284 samples being submitted for examination by the methylene blue test, with the following results.

Month:	1949			1950			1951			1952			Total
	G	M	P	G	M	P	G	M	P	G	M	P	
January	2	-	2	10	2	3	23	3	-	22	1	-	
February	11	7	-	21	-	-	30	2	-	20	1	-	
March	43	5	2	18	2	2	29	2	-	19	1	-	
April	27	5	3	19	4	-	22	2	-	20	3	-	
May	44	10	3	12	1	4	35	2	1	27	3	1	
June	34	9	12	-	-	-	20	8	3	23	4	3	
July	12	10	11	5	3	4	9	5	5	23	2	12	
August	14	2	14	9	10	2	20	6	4	16	4	5	
September	11	5	3	7	4	-	12	1	5	13	5	1	
October	11	5	2	22	2	3	26	9	-	23	-	-	
November	24	1	-	15	3	-	23	2	4	18	1	1	
December	1	-	-	12	1	-	18	2	2	11	1	-	
	234	59	52	150	32	18	267	44	24	235	26	23	
Total number of samples	345			200			335			284			1164
% of Poor Grade	15%			9%			7%			8%			
% of Moderate Grade	17%			16%			13%			9%			
% of Good Grade	68%			75%			80%			83%			

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 - Section 20 -

It has not been necessary to serve any notices under this regulation.

Meat and other Foods -

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947 and 1948, together with the Shops Act, and Byelaws, enable a reasonably good standard to be maintained in the production and distribution of food.

No items of food have been seized, but the following have been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

Luncheon Meat	84 tins	Italian Cherries	4 tins
Ham	19 "	Pilchards	1 "
Stewed Steak	19 "	Salmon	1 "
Rabbit	4 "	Fruits	8 "
Peas	14 "	Veal and Ham	10 "
Pineapple	1 "	Jellied Veal	2 "
Brisling	3 "	Herring Roes	2 "
Beans	14 "	Peeled Shrimps	2 "
Sliced Orange	3 "	Tomatoe Juice	1 "
Pork Sausage	1 "	Pineapple	2 "
Chopped Pork	5 "	Chicken Broth	1 "
Milk	10 "	Braised Hearts	1 "
Italian Tomatoes	34 "	Rhubarb	3 "

Other Commodities.

Sponge Cakes	72	Gelatine	2 lbs.
Kellogs	21	All-Bran Cereal	8 "
Pea Nut Butter	11 lbs.	Pickles	1 jar
Chocolate Roll	2 "	Fish	$\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.
Biscuits	12 "		

Condemned and Returned to Wholesaler.

Ham	9 lbs.	Liver	13 lbs.
Fish Cakes	144	Cheese	$10\frac{1}{2}$ "
Ground Rice	10 lbs.		

Meat voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

Sausage	$133\frac{1}{2}$lbs.	Beef Ribs and Brisket	$10\frac{1}{2}$lbs.
Liver	$30\frac{1}{2}$ "	Pork	22 "
Bacon	13 "	Sheeps Pluck	11 "
Beef Flank	84 "	Ham	15 "
Mutton, English	25 "	Faggots	81 "
Beef	$41\frac{1}{2}$ "		

Ice Cream -

During the year strict observations have been kept upon the manufacture and sale of ice cream; and samples were taken for examination by the methylene blue test. These gave results as follows:

	1949	1950	1951	1952
Grade 1	49	90	76	51
Grade 2	68	72	13	49
Grade 3	66	26	4	8
Grade 4	14	6	9	7
	197	194	102	115
Grade 1	25%	47%	74%	44%
Grade 2	34%	37%	13%	43%
Grade 3	34%	13%	4%	7%
Grade 4	7%	3%	9%	6%

Carcases Inspected and Condemned -

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)					
Number Inspected					
All diseases except Tuberculosis whole carcases condemned					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		N I L			
Percentage of that number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis					
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.					
Percentage of that number inspected affected with tuberculosis.					

Swimming Baths and Pools -

The Council's bathing places on the River Ouse have not been officially re-opened, and warnings are exhibited that persons using these bathing places do so at their own risk.

During the year Mr. Fegans Homes, Stony Stratford, arranged with the County Education Committee for a limited number of the pupils from the Wolverton School to use the Swimming Pool at the Homes. This necessitated the regular sampling of the water from the swimming pool. The samples of water from the pool were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton, and the results are shewn on page 6 of this report.

Eradication of Bed Bugs -

	Infested	Disinfested
Council Houses	NIL	NIL
Other Houses	4	4

The treatment consists of spraying with Zaldecide.

Premises and occupations controlled by Bye-laws and Regulations - Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Part IV.

This enactment came into operation on the 2.4.51 and requires the licensing of places ordinarily used for public dancing and music or public entertainment of the like kind.

The sanitary condition of the conveniences attached to the three cinemas in this district is satisfactory.

All the streets under the Council's control are regularly cleansed by arrangement with the County Council, the classified roads in the built-up portion of the district, and those linking up the three townships, are scavenged by the Council.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks -

1952 Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

Period	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
No: of out-breaks	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
No: of cases	SEVEN	NIL	NIL	NIL
No: of deaths	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Infectious Diseases.

A very large number of cases of Whooping Cough were notified at the beginning of the year, and during the last four months there was an epidemic of measles.

In both diseases the infection was of a mild nature.

Scarlet Fever 39 cases were notified as against 21 last year. Three cases were sent to the Isolation Hospital.

Tuberculosis 10 cases were notified.

Puerperal Pyrexia)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum) No cases

Food Poisoning. 7 cases were reported in the first week of January. These really belong to the outbreak in the last ten days of December, 1951. All were mild cases.

Housing.

24 municipal houses were completed during the year, at the end of which 88 more houses were in course of erection.

Following the receipt of M.H. & L.G. Circular 64/52, attention was given to the question of the sale of Council houses. After studying the several aspects of the matter the Council deferred consideration for a period of two years.

In May the Council decided to make an order requiring the house No: 139, High Street, Stony Stratford to be demolished. So far this has not been implemented because of the difficulty of arranging alternative accommodation for the tenant.

The question of the sub standard property at Oxford Street and Silver Street, (West) Stony Stratford, has been under consideration. From correspondence with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government thereon it seems unlikely that any special grants will be made at the present time in connexion with action taken under Part III of the Housing Act, 1936.

Provided such grants were available it was felt that the area ought to be declared a clearance area, but in their absence, the Council's resources were not thought to be sufficient to carry the declaration into effect.

A decision on this has therefore been deferred for a period of two years.

A license granted under Defence Regulation 68AA in respect of 6, Silver Street, Stony Stratford, was still current at the end of the year.

DOUGLAS W.A. BULL,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
WOLVERTON URBAN DISTRICT.

20th June, 1953.